

CLAIMS:

1. A nanoemulsion, comprising:

an oily phase dispersed in an aqueous phase and having oil globules with a number-average size of less than 100 nm,

a surfactant which is solid at a temperature of less than or equal to 45°C, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of esters of a fatty acid and of a sugar and ethers of a fatty alcohol and of a sugar, and

at least one oil having a molecular weight of greater than 400,

wherein the ratio by weight of the amount of oily phase to the amount of surfactant is

2 to 10.

2. The nanoemulsion according to Claim 1, having a turbidity of 60 to 600 NTU.

3. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the amount of surfactant is 0.2 to 15% by weight with respect to the total weight of the nanoemulsion.

4. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the ratio by weight of the amount of oily phase to the amount of surfactant is 3 to 6.

5. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the oil globules have an average size of 20 to 75 nm.

6. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of esters or mixtures of esters of a C₈-C₂₂ fatty acid and of sucrose, maltose, glucose or fructose, esters or mixtures of esters of a C₁₄-C₂₂ fatty acid and of methylglucose, ethers or mixtures of ethers of a C₈-C₂₂ fatty alcohol and of glucose, maltose, sucrose or fructose, and ethers or mixtures of ethers of a C₁₄-C₂₂ fatty alcohol and of methylglucose.

7. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sucrose monostearate, sucrose distearate, sucrose tristearate and their mixtures, the distearate of methylglucose and of polyglycerol-3, and alkyl polyglucosides.

8. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the oil with a molecular weight of greater than 400 is selected from the group consisting of oils of animal or vegetable origin, mineral oils, synthetic oils and silicone oils, and mixtures thereof.

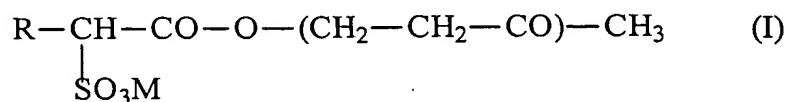
5 9. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the oily phase additionally comprises at least one oil having a molecular weight of less than 400.

10. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the oily phase comprises at least 40% by weight of oil(s) having a molecular weight of greater than 400 with respect to the total weight of the oily phase.

10 11. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, wherein the amount of oily phase is 2 to 40% by weight with respect to the total weight of the nanoemulsion

12. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, further comprising at least one ionic amphiphilic lipid selected from the group consisting of anionic amphiphilic lipids, cationic amphiphilic lipids and alkylsulfonic derivatives.

15 13. The nanoemulsion according to Claim 12, wherein the ionic amphiphilic lipids are selected from the group consisting of
the alkaline salts of dicetyl and dimyristyl phosphate;
the alkaline salts of cholesterol sulphate;
the alkaline salts of cholesterol phosphate;
the salts of lipoamino acids;
20 the sodium salts of phosphatidic acid;
phospholipids;
the alkylsulfonic derivatives of formula (I):



in which R represents C₁₆-C₂₂ alkyl radicals, taken as a mixture or separately, and M is an alkali metal;

quaternary ammonium salts, fatty amines and their salts;
and mixtures thereof.

5 14. The nanoemulsion of Claim 12, wherein the amount of ionic amphiphilic lipid(s) is 0.01 to 5% by weight with respect to the total weight of the nanoemulsion.

15. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, further comprising an additive which improves the transparency thereof and selected from the group consisting lower alcohols, glycols, sugars and mixtures thereof.

10 16. The nanoemulsion of Claim 15, wherein the additive is present in a concentration ranging from 5 to 20% by weight with respect to the total weight of the nanoemulsion.

17. The nanoemulsion of Claim 1, further comprising a cosmetic, dermatological or ophthalmological active agent.

18. A composition suitable for topical use comprising the nanoemulsion of Claim 1.

15 19. An ophthalmic vehicle comprising the nanoemulsion of Claim 1.

20. A method of caring for, treating and/or making up the skin, face and/or scalp, comprising applying the nanoemulsion of Claim 1 to the skin, face and/or scalp.

21. A method of caring for and/or treating the hair, comprising applying the nanoemulsion of Claim 1 to the hair.

20 22. A method of caring for and/or moisturizing the skin, mucous membranes and/or scalp, comprising applying the nanoemulsion of Claim 1 to the skin, mucous membranes and/or scalp.

23. A method of preparing the nanoemulsion of Claim 1, comprising:

mixing the aqueous phase and the oily phase with vigorous stirring at an ambient temperature ranging from 10 to 80°C and then homogenizing the mixture at a pressure ranging from 6×10^7 Pa to 18×10^7 Pa.

5 24. The process of Claim 23, wherein said mixing is conducted at a shearing of $2 \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ to $5 \times 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$.